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SOURCE Meditsinskiy Rabotnik.

### NEW TREATMENT FOR PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS

The Institute of General and Experimental Pathology of the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR, directed by Academician A. D. Speranskiy, has experimentally tested and introduced into practice a new method for treating nonpulmonary tuberculosis by intravenous injection of bismuth carbonate. Results obtained during a 7-year period (1942 - 1949) have been collated and evaluated. The method proved successful in many cases, some of these cases indicating acute infection. This included tubercular polyserositis, lymphadenitis, and other types of infection.

In 1949, this same method was applied in Addison's disease caused by tuberculosis of the suprarenal glands, in bronchial asthma, infections of the female genital organs, etc.

In 1949, new data was obtained which confirmed the decisive role of the nerve-receptor apparatus in the pathogenesis of tetanus and diphtheria, and also in the development of the so-called passive immunity in experimental tetanus. It was indicated that antitetanus serum acts as a specific irritant of particular nerve-receptor groups in the organism, in addition to neutralizing the toxin. Investigations on this subject form a theoretical basis for revising the present immunization and serum-therapy methods.

It was possible to clarify physiological processes which take place in the nerve level and determine the nonspecific resistance of animals to tetanus. For instance, it could be established that changes in the position of the limb into which a virulent *Bacillus tetani* vaccine had been introduced prevent lethal infection in 70-80 percent of the cases. Data obtained indicates that the length of the incubation period of tetanus depends on the condition of the experimental animal's nervous system.

The Laboratory of Experimental Pathology and Pathological Anatomy established that the application of an additional nonspecific irritation applied at a certain distance from the site where a cancerogenous substance had been introduced produces a distinct effect on the development of the tumor. The Laboratory of Physiology obtained new data relative to the development of incipient tumors, thus opening new perspectives for the treatment of malignant tumors.

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